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CIA Ousts San Diego Agent

San Diego CIA Aide Loses Job

Officer Had Asked
Probe Of Possible
Agency Illegalities

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The San Diego resident officer of the Central Intelligence Agency who two weeks ago sent a telegram to the agency's director urging an investigation into possible illegalities by CIA officers was forced to retire yesterday, he reported.

Donald S. Jordan, 57 and a 26-year veteran of the CIA, said three agency officers appeared yesterday morning in his office and told him "the admiral has looked at your memo and is exercising his prerogative to terminate you."

The admiral is CIA Director Admiral Stansfield Turner, to whom Jordan sent his request for an investigation. Jordan also released copies of the telegram to The San Diego Union and several other newspapers.

OFFICE KEY

Jordan said last night that "there is nothing in writing that I was fired," because the three officers gave him a retirement application, which he signed.

The officers took Jordan's office key and changed the combination of the office safe immediately, Jordan said.

"He has this prerogative (to terminate officers), yes, but it's very unusual — extremely rare — to exercise it in this fashion, without a hearing," Jordan said.

CIA officials could not be reached for comment last night, but an agency spokesman had confirmed earlier that Jordan's telegram had been received at CIA headquarters in Langley, Va.

BEING AIRED

The spokesman also said Jordan's allegations "are being aired."

Jordan, a senior analyst in the domestic service, would not detail specific instances of wrongdoing within the agency on the grounds of possible violation of national security regulations.

He said last night, however, that his complaints fell into three general categories: "abuses" of private citizens who supported the agency, the "lying and fabrication of intelligence information," and internal problems such as "illicit personnel files which are in conflict with official files."

DECEPTIONS

He said the abuses were "primarily a matter of (the CIA) deceiving people, people who helped the agency not knowing what the hell they were getting into."

Jordan said he is considering filing a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit to gain access to his own personnel records.

"The danger of this organization is the arbitrary power that rests at the top," he said. "It's easier for the director to fire a guy like me who rocks the boat than to take on the super-grades (high agency officials)."

"I embarrassed him, because I called his bluff. He's mentioned all these pledges about investigating abuses," Jordan said in reference to a Turner memo to CIA employees which promised investigations of allegations of malfeasance or incompetence within the agency.

Jordan said he had documented instances of what he termed "possible illegalities" and sent the information on two occasions to the CIA inspector general and finally to Turner himself. No corrective action was ever taken, he said.

Turner has been bitterly criticized in other quarters recently, mainly because of a sweeping efficiency drive that may eliminate as many as 1,000 members of the agency's clandestine service by next year.